

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph number [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001]        This patent application is a continuation claiming priority from a  
5    patent application having serial number 10/284,867 titled “Slotted Substrates and  
Methods and Systems for Forming Same” filed 10/31/2002, and issued as patent  
number [[\_\_\_\_]] US 6,672,712 B1.